

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00267 090626Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-13 AID-05 DHA-02

/082 W

-----090643Z 105486 /23-12

O 090600Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7686

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL UDORN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0267

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS PFOR PINS LA TH SHUM

SUBJ: THAI AND LAO TROOPS EXCHANGE GUNFIRE ACROSS MEKONG

NEAR VIENTIANE

1. THAI AND LAO TROOPS BEGAN AN EXCHANGE OF SMALL ARMS FIRE ACROSS THE MEKONG AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY ONE KILOMETER NORTH OF THE CENTER OF THE CITY AT ABOUT 0945 HOURS (LOCAL TIME) FEBRUARY 9. AS OF 1200 HOURS SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS CONTINUING INTERMITTENTLY WITH THREE LAO TROOPS REPORTEDLY PINNED DOWN ON A LARGE SAND DUNE IN THE MEKONG NEAR THE LAO SHORE. ONE LAO SOLDIER IS REPORTEDLY WOUNDED OR DEAD. TWO SMALL THAI RIVER PATROL BOATS ARE ON THE SCENE BUT AS OF 1200 WERE INACTIVE.

2. LAO TROOPS BEARING SMALL ARMS ARE CONVERGING SLOWLY ALONG THE LAO BANK ALONG WITH CURIOUS LAO CIVILIANS.

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RELIABLE REPORTS INDICATE THAT THAI TROOPS ARE BEING SENT TO THE OPPOSITE POINT ON THE THAI SHORE.

3. THE INCIDENT REPORTEDLY BEGAN WHEN TWO LAO ATTEMPTED TO SWIM TO THAILAND BUT WERE BROUGHT UNDER FIRE BY LAO BORDER SENTRIES. TWO THAI PATROL BOATS REPORTEDLY PICKED UP THE TWO SWIMMERS AND EXCHANGED FIRE WITH THE

LAO TROOPS WHO FIRED ON THE SWIMMERS. THAI TROOPS ON THE THAI SHORE ALSO BEGAN FIRING SMALL ARMS SUCCESSFULLY PINNING DOWN THREE LAO TROOPS ON THE SAND DUNE.

4. THE CITY REMAINS CALM WITH NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY EXCEPT FOR SMALL KNOTS OF PEOPLE GATHERING ALONG THE RIVER ROAD NEAR THE CENTER OF THE CITY. SOME THAI SMALL ARMS FIRE REPORTEDLY STRUCK BUILDINGS ON THE LAO SHORE AND LOCAL SOURCES SAID THAT THREE ROUNDS FROM HEAVY WEAPONS WERE HEARD FROM THE THAI SIDE.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, PINS, SHUM, LA, TH
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